M/H

BOROUGH OF TENBY

ANNUAL REPORT

1959

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
Dr. P. M. BOWEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
H. P. LAWRENCE, A.R.S.H., A.M.I.B.E.

B O R O U G H O F T E N B Y

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1959.

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of the Council,

Mr.Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present my Annual Report upon matters affecting the Public Health in the Borough during the year 1959.

I am pleased to report that the records are again very satisfactory. There was one infant death during the year but this was due to congenital heart disease, and the Infant Mortality figure still remains very satisfactory as compared with that for Pembrokeshire as a whole and also for England and Wales and also to that affecting the Borough 10 years ago during 1949, when it was 29 per 1,000 live births.

Plans drawn up during 1958 to build 22 one bedroomed bungalows for elderly folk were completed, and during the year building was commenced. When these bungalows are completed it is hoped that some of the elderly folk living in the three bedroomed council houses can be transferred. This will enable families with children to be re-housed, some of which have been on the waiting list for some time. From perusal of the housing list it appears that further council houses or flats, particularly two bedroomed ones, are required, that is, if the rents of these can be kept at a reasonable figure.

Again, I would like to emphasise how important a part the Public Health Inspector plays in the maintenance of the conditions suitable for healthy living. Much work has been done to implement the recommendations made under the Food and Hygiene regulations and conditions have improved.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Council and its officers for their continued courtesy and co-operation and to include in this my thanks to my clerk, Miss V.K.Pickard, for all her help.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

The Guildhall,
Tenby. Tel: Tenby 2589

PHYLLIS M.BOWEN, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate) ....1959....

.....4,450.....

	Borough of Tenby 1959	Borough of Tenby 1958	County of Pembroke	England & Wales
Live Births	62	73		
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	13.93	16.4	16.9	16.5
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	1.61	nil	3.99	
Still Births	nil	1		
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	nil	13.7	26.82	20.7
Total Live and Still Births	62	74		
Infant Deaths	1	nil		
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)				
- total	16.12		21.21	22.0
- legitimate	16.39		22.09	
- illegitimate	nil		nil	
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks) (per 1,000 live births)	nil	nil	16.84	15.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week) (per 1,000 live births)	nil	nil	14.34	
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined)(per 1,000 live and still births)	nil	13.51	40.0	

There was one death this year of an infant under one year of age. This was due to congenital heart disease at 2 months of age. The infant mortality rate, although higher than last year's, is still lower than that for the County of Pembroke and for England and Wales.

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	Borough of Tenby 1959	Borough of Tenby 1958	County of Pembroke	England & Wales
Maternal, Deaths	nil	nil		
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	nil	nil	0.60	0.38
Deaths	61	65		
Death Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	13.70	14.06	11.64	11.6

The general death rate again shows a slight decrease, and 68.85% of the total number of deaths occurred in persons aged over 70 years. Of these, 37.7% occurred in persons aged over 80 years. The highest incidence of death from any one cause again occurred from heart disease, which accounted for 26 of the 61 deaths. Of the 4 deaths from cancer, 1 was due to cancer of the lung.

Causes of death	Male	Female
TOTAL (All causes)	28	33
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	1
Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus,	1	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	2
Diabetes	1	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	7
Coronary disease, angina,	7	10
Other heart disease	6	3
Other circulatory disease	2	2
Influenza	-	1
Other diseases of the respiratory system	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-
Congenital malformations	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	5
All other accidents	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS

Two deaths occurred this year from tuberculosis. One old case was admitted to hospital, one old case was re-notified, and a new case of tuberculosis involving the neck was notified and admitted to hospital.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. Vaccination B.C.G. vaccination of contacts and school leavers continues to be carried out in the Borough. Clinic sessions are held at Warren Street

Clinic for the purpose and the schools are also visited. During 1959, 12 contacts and 75 school leavers (i.e.pupils aged thirteen years and over) were vaccinated. The Chest Physician, Dr.Llewelyn Davies, also vaccinates contacts at the Chest Clinic.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1	Respiratory Tuberculosis
1	Non-respiratory Tuberculosis
15	Measles

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIO-MYELITIS

During the year, permission was granted by the Ministry of Health for the age limit to be raised to 40 years, so that the age group is now from 6 months to 40 years. This work was continued both at the Clinic and in the schools and it has meant much additional work for the County Health Department.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT,1946.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

Vaccination — Records were received during the year of 34 primary vaccinations.

Immunisation — Records were received during the year of 60 primary immunisations against diphtheria and 53 re-inforcing injections, and also of 66 immunisations against whooping cough.

Both vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough are carried out at the Clinic and by the local practitioners, who are paid by the County Council on receipt by your Medical Officer of the record cards.

Ambulance Service

This is the responsibility of the County Council, which has seven ambulances in the County and an arrangement for the provision of cars for "sitting cases". The Tenby ambulance has been supplied by the Welsh Ambulance Committee and is operated on a garage arrangement basis by Jeremy's Garages Limited. The British Red Cross Society is most helpful in providing voluntary attendants.

Much of the work in the south of the County consists of out-patient sitting cases requiring transport to hospitals in Carmarthen, Pembroke and Haverfordwest. Generally, these cases

are carried by hired cars in order that the ambulance shall be free to deal with emergency cases. This procedure is particularly important in the summer months when the area is full of holiday makers.

During 1959, the Tenby Ambulance dealt with 956 patients, 466 of whom were stretcher cases and 490 sitting cases. The total number of miles travelled was 19,900, an average of 20.07 miles per case, in 431 journeys.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47:- Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary under this section.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1959

Total No. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts)	-	241
No. of dwelling houses inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations 1925 - 1932.	-	4
No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	-	6
No. of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	-	13
No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority.	-	11

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING YEAR

It was not found necessary to take formal action in respect of the execution of repairs under the Housing or Public Health Acts during the year.

Housing Act, 1957. Section 18.

No. of undertakings accepted not to use premises for human habitation.	-	1

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications were received during the year for Certificates of Disrepair, though several enquiries were made and every assistance given.

Housing Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

The above Act came into force in June.

The numbers of applications received for grant aid towards improvements were as follows:-

Standard Grants	-	4
Discretionary Grants	-	6

The grants were approved in each case.

The number of applications, so far, under the new Act is encouraging and I feel it is most important that we should do everything possible to slow down the rate of decay of the

older houses, to give them a face lift and bring them up to modern standards to the fullest possible extent, having regard to their structural limitations.

New Houses

No new council houses were completed during the year, but work commenced in July on the construction of twenty-two old people's bungalows at Augustus Place.

Two houses were built by private enterprise.

Re-housing

Twenty families were re-housed by the Corporation during the year. Six of these were from houses declared unfit for human habitation.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Section I. Proposals.

Under the above Act, Local Authorities were asked to carry out surveys of unfit dwellings in their areas, to submit returns to the Ministry showing the numbers of such houses, and to make proposals for programmes of clearance extending over the five years beginning in January 1956 and ending in December 1960. The Council's proposal was to close or demolish 28 houses during that period and at a very early date it is anticipated that the programme will be completed. Owing to the increasing demand for the purchase of old houses and with the assistance of grant aid under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, it is unlikely that the Council will be faced with any further proposals in the forseeable future.

Houses provided under the Housing Acts.

The total number of houses erected under the Housing Acts by the Council is 329.

These may be sub-divided as follows:-

4 bedrooms	-	2	
3 bedrooms	-	240	
2 bedrooms	-	59	(including 50 pre-fabricated houses)
2 bedroom flats	-	24	
1 bedroom bungalows	-	4	(further 22 under construction)

TOILET FACILITIES

Improvements were made to existing toilets on the North and South Beaches, providing additional toilet facilities for ladies. A scheme is in hand to extend the ladies' conveniences at South Parade.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

No major changes took place in the cleansing service during the year.

Owing to the increase in the amount of refuse put out for collection during the summer months, the 15 cwt.Bedford Truck was used for two hours daily.

There was a marked increase in the number of covered refuse bins used by householders and as a result, refuse was more hygienically stored and collecting was made easier.

The disposal site at Clickett's Lane continued in operation during the year and sufficient covering material was purchased from the local quarry to ensure adequate cover. Regular spraying of the tip face is carried out and only a few complaints were received from the adjoining housing estate regarding fly infestation.

RODENT CONTROL

One operator is now employed part-time on this work, under the general direction of your Public Health Inspector.

All complaints from householders were dealt with promptly and regular treatments were carried out on the refuse tip and other Local Authority properties.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the period under review:-

No.of properties inspected	-		181
No.of treatments	-	(a) Dwelling Houses -	73
		(b) Business Premises -	2
		(c) L.A.Properties -	8

CAMPING SITES

No additional caravan sites were opened during the year.

The five licensed sites operating in the area are as follows:-

(1) Kiln Park,	250 resident vans, 50 touring vans, tents for 200 persons
(2) Saltern, Marsh Road,	50 caravans
(3) Zion Gardens,St.John's Hill,	28 caravans
(4) Meadow Farm, North Cliff,	12 caravans
(5) Windmills,Narberth Road	6 caravans

All these sites are efficiently managed and a high standard is maintained.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

No. of retailers	- 6 (including 1 seasonal)

Milk Samples

No. of samples taken	- 28
Satisfactory	- 24
Unsatisfactory	- nil
Void	- 4

All samples taken were for "keeping quality" and efficiency of pasteurisation.

All schools are supplied with bottled pasteurised milk.

The Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk)Regulations,1949.

No. of dealers licences issued during 1959:-

Tuberculin Tested Milk - 3

The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations,1949.

No. of dealers licences issued during 1959:-

1) Pasteurised Milk - 3
2) Sterilised Milk - nil

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT,1955.Section 16.

No. of premises registered to sell ice-cream	- 34
No. of premises registered to manufacture ice-cream	- 2
No. of ice-cream samples taken	- 5
No. satisfactory (Grade 1)	- 5

RETAIL FOOD PREMISES

Grocers	- 16
Butchers	- 8
Bakers	- 6
Fish Friers	- 2
Cafes	- 26

Regular inspections are carried out.

The following table gives the quantity of foodstuffs examined during the year and found unfit for human consumption.

Class of Food	Weight			
	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Fresh Fish		3	11	0
Fresh Meat		6	17	8
Tinned Meat	9	0	6	0
Tinned Fish		1	7	0
Tinned Fruit	5	0	12	8
Tinned Vegetables	1	1	21	8
Tinned Milk			19	0
TOTAL	18	2	10	8

This is more than double the quantity of last year and is due to the large amount of tinned meat which deteriorated in store as a result of the warm summer.

All the unfit food is buried at the Corporation's refuse tip.

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

One new cafe was opened and two completely re-contructed. Some substantial alterations also took place in the layout and construction of shops in the market and also many improvements made to several hotel kitchens.

FACTORIES ACT,1937. Section 34.

All factories in the Borough are now supplied with the necessary certificate and lay-out plans relating to means of escape in case of fire, and are brought up to date when necessary.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Notices	Prosecutions
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	8	8	2	nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	37	25	4	nil

Premises	No. on Register	Inspect-ions	Notices	Prose-cutions
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority, (excluding out-workers' premises).	3	7	nil	nil
TOTAL	48	40	6	nil

THE OLD METAL DEALERS (TENBY) ORDER,1958.

The above order made under Section 3 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, came into force during 1958.

Under the Order, two dealers have been registered, involving the use of four premises as stores.

H.P.LAWRENCE.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND

HOUSING OFFICER.